



STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187
www.ellington-ct.gov

BOARD OF FINANCE

JOHN P. RACHEK
Chairman

PEGGY BUSSE
DOUGLAS B. HARDING
DAVID J. OLENDER
BARRY C. PINTO
MICHAEL D. VARNEY

**REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 8, 2019
MINUTES**

Members Present: J. Rachek-Chair, P. Busse, D. Harding, D. Olender, B. Pinto, M. Varney

Others Present: L. Spielman-First Selectman, F. LaPlante-Acting Finance Officer, T. Palshaw, C. Chamberlin

Call to Order

Chairman John Rachek called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Citizen's Forum – None

Approval of Minutes

MOVED (PINTO) SECONDED (HARDING) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 4, 2018 AS WRITTEN.

Additional Appropriations – None

Financial Statements

Felicia LaPlante reviewed what was completed by the Finance Office this month. She distributed the revenue portion of the Financial Statement and will email the balance of the report to the members.

New Business

- 2019-20 Budget Guidelines

The guidelines from 2018-19 were reviewed and discussed and it was decided to leave the verbiage as is and the capital improvements target was updated to \$1,300,000 based on what 1 mill is currently.

- 2019-20 Board of Finance Budget

Copies of the current budget for the Board of Finance were distributed for review and will be acted upon at the February regular meeting.

- Renewable Energy Project Tripp Rd.

Ms. LaPlante stated that this solar farm will be constructed on private property on Tripp Rd for which they already have a lease agreement. They will be requesting a property tax stabilization agreement with the Town. The Town cannot reject or appeal the solar farm, the tax stabilization is the only option for the Town. First Selectman, Lori Spielman stated that the property is owned by the Catholic Church and they have entered into a lease agreement with Verogy. There will be a fence installed. The question came up as to whether the property would be reassessed to commercial for tax purposes. Mr. LaPlante stated that she has been in discussion with the Tax Assessor and it is being researched. It was the consensus of the Board of Finance that they are not in favor of granting the tax stabilization agreement.

Old Business

Chairman Rachek told the Board that Nick DiCorleto has submitted his letter stating his retirement which will be effective January 31, 2019. He will be greatly missed.

Mr. Olender asked the status of the Library Roof. Ms. LaPlante stated that it is being reviewed with an engineer for the roof structure to include solar panels. Ms. Spielman stated that the solar panels will be free to the Town based on the sustainable energy program that was offered to residents this year. The solar installation will be included in the bid contract. Mr. Olender stated that the town should make sure it is included in the renewal energy credit program. Felicia LaPlante stated that the legal notice for the bid will be out in January. Mr. Varney stated his concern regarding the leaking of the roof.

Liaison Reports

Mr. Rachek stated that the Board of Education budget workshop has been scheduled for January 26. The Superintendent will present his budget to the Board of Education at that time.

Mr. Varney stated that the revaluation that has been in the capital budget should be put into the operating budget as a non-lapsing fund. Felicia stated that the fund would have to be created and that she consulted Nick DiCorleto who agreed with this process. She is checking with the auditors to make sure it is done properly. Mr. Olender asked how much was spent on the Nutmeg Dr. Firehouse generator. Felicia will get him that information.

Mr. Harding stated that the final hearing on the school master plan will be Thursday, January 17 at 7 PM.

Adjournment

MOVED (PINTO) SECONDED (HARDING) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted:



Lori Smith, Recording Secretary